

Local Notes.

Members Affected.

There are about 28 members of Congress who are more or less concerned over the House committee's report about the unseating of members who received commissions in the volunteer service during the Spanish war. The declaring of the seats vacant by the House would work hardship on some of the members. Representative Robbins, who was a captain in the volunteer army, drew his Congressional salary all along, but refused any salary as an army officer. He went to Cuba and Porto Rico, and paid his expenses out of his own pocket. Now the resolutions of the committee, if adopted, would declare his seat vacant since August 1 last, which would place Mr. Robbins under moral obligations, at least, to return his Congressional salary to the public Treasury. Then he would be out of any compensation whatever for his public services. General Wheeler, as is well known, drew his army salary of \$7,500 a year and refused his Congressional salary of \$5,000 a year.

Athletic Meet.

The Georgetown University Athletic Association has decided to hold an indoor meet at Convention Hall, in this city, on March 11th. This meet will be the first of its kind ever held in the South, and efforts are being put forth to make it an event of importance in the history of athletics in this country. It will be of the nature and purport of an athletic carnival, and will constitute a convention of athletes from all parts of the United States. Convention Hall, in which the meet will be held, is the largest hall in the country. It will contain a ten lap track, with high banks and corners, especially constructed by the association for this occasion, and every facility for the convenience and comfort of the participants and the public will be afforded. A large list of entries from various athletic associations and colleges have already been received, and everything so far points to a successful meet. All athletes and associations are promised by the management to be given prominent notice and careful individual attention. Entry blanks can be secured by applying to Charles J. Martel, chairman of the Entry Committee.

Achieved His Ambition.

A distinguished visitor to the city last week was Hon. W. A. Clark, of Montana, whose recent election to the United States Senate was accompanied by so many startling and sensational episodes as to attract national attention. Mr. Clark does not owe any of his success in life to a bulky figure or imposing presence; on the contrary, he is of very ordinary physique, about five feet seven inches in height, and weighing not over 125 pounds. He has a reddish mustache and beard, and allows his hair to grow long. He is of the wry, nervous temperament, and his active mind is perpetually at work on the details of his vast interests, or else planning new schemes that will add to his millions. He is sixty years old. For years it has been the chief dream and aim of his life to reach the United States Senate. The story of his struggle to attain that ambition would, if written in its entirety, fill a volume. From the outset until his triumph a few weeks ago, he was confronted at every turn by the powerful opposition of his personal enemy, Marcus Daly. Daly is also a Democrat, but he and Clark tell out over some matter of business, and the feud was of the sort that gained in intensity all the time. Had it not been for Daly's unrelenting hatred his foe would have reached the goal of his hopes six years ago, when the Democrats were in the ascendancy in the Montana Legislature. Then, as recently, a deadlock ensued. A large majority of his party were in favor of Clark, and he only lacked one or two votes of election, but Daly controlled the recalcitrants absolutely, and the Legislature passed out of existence without making a choice. Hon. Lee Mantle was appointed by the Governor to the vacant Senatorship, but the Senate did not recognize his claim to the seat. The new Senator has an estimated income of \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000 a month. He owns probably the richest copper mine in the world—the United Verde, in Arizona—which is of almost fabulous value, though he bought it for a comparatively small sum. He lives a great part of the time in New York City, and is building a palatial residence on Seventy-seventh street.

Mr. Smithmeyer's Claim.

The claim of John L. Smithmeyer and Paul J. Pelz, the architects of the Congressional Library, is still pending, and there appears to be little chance of a settlement this session. Representative Rixey, from the House Committee on Claims, has made a favorable report on the bill providing for the payment of the claim, but it does not seem to have a chance for passage at this session. The claim is an interesting one, from the fact that the Government has strenuously resisted its payment for years, although one committee after another of the House and Senate has reported favorably on it and the Court of Claims has also passed judgment.

Twenty-five years ago Smithmeyer & Pelz were architects in Washington, and entered into a competition with 27 other architects and firms for the privilege of preparing plans for the Library. Their plan was selected, but for thirteen years they were kept busy by different commissions and committees preparing plans and drawings before the present plan was adopted. In all they prepared ten plans, and they spent years in Europe visiting all the celebrated libraries, both ancient and modern, for the purpose of securing the best features of architecture and ornamentation. In 1886, and again in 1889, their plan was adopted and the building commenced. From 1874 to 1886 they had abandoned their private business and given themselves exclusively to work on the Library plans.

The Committee on Claims takes the view that when their plans were finally adopted the Government, by placing them on its payroll, acknowledged that they had completed the work on commission and were now engaged as employees. The regular compensation for such work is 2 1/2 per cent, which, on \$6,000, amounts to \$150.00. As they did not furnish the specifications, \$3,000 is deducted, and they have been paid \$48,000, so the committee finds that \$19,200 is still due them, and recommends its payment. It is generally admitted that in preparing plans for a building of this character one half the architect's fee goes to pay his draught-

men and other workmen, or is eaten up in expenses, so the claimants estimate that they have expended \$70,750 in this manner. If their claim is finally paid in full they would receive only \$79,500 for thirteen years' full work, or a trifle over \$3,000 a year apiece.

INFORMATION FOR BREWERS AND OTHERS.

No More Canteens for the Soldiers. While the Army Reorganization bill was pending in the Senate last Monday, Mr. Hansbrough, of North Dakota, resubmitted the Army Canteen amendment, which had passed the House and been thrown out of the bill by the Senate Military Committee, and without a single objection the amendment was passed. As heretofore published the amendment reads:

Sec. 17. That no officer or private soldier shall be detailed to sell intoxicating drinks, as a bartender or otherwise, in any post, exchange, or canteen, nor shall any person be required or allowed to sell such liquors in any encampment or fort or on any premises used for military purposes by the United States; and the Secretary of War is hereby directed to issue such general order as may be necessary to carry the provisions of this section into full force and effect.

Salvation Army No Bar to Saloons.

The application recently made by Karl Xander for permission to transfer his wholesale liquor license from 437 K street northwest to his new building in Seventh street, between P and Q streets northwest, has given rise to an interesting controversy between the applicant, the District officials and members of the Anti Saloon League and the Salvation Army.

Soon after the application was filed the Anti Saloon League, through its attorney, Albert E. Shoemaker, filed an objection, on the ground that the Salvation Army has a place of worship within 400 feet of the place to which it is proposed to remove the liquor business. An answer to this objection was then submitted by Wm. F. Mattingly, on behalf of Mr. Xander, holding that the house in which the Salvation Army meets is not a place of religious worship within the meaning of the law. The Commissioners referred the matter to S. T. Thomas, the Attorney for the District, who has handed down an opinion ruling against the Salvation Army and the Anti Saloon League.

In his opinion Mr. Thomas says: "It is a general and primary rule of construction, where there is nothing in the statute to indicate that a word is used in a peculiar or technical sense, that it is to be taken in its ordinary and popular meaning. It is manifest that Congress used the words 'house of religious worship' in their ordinary and popular sense, that is, as meaning a building dedicated to religious worship. In my opinion the fact that the Salvation Army has a place in which religious meetings are held, within 400 feet of the location to which Mr. Xander desires his liquor license transferred, does not stand in the way of the Excise Board acting favorably upon his application, if they see fit."

Mr. Mattingly contended that "the words of the law, 'house of religious worship,' do not mean any house in which religious worship is indulged in. If so, they would apply to many private dwellings. They necessarily mean, in construing a public law, an edifice dedicated and devoted to religious worship, provided by some denomination or congregation for its assemblage and for that express purpose, whether it be Catholic, Protestant or Hebrew; and they do not mean whatever premises may be temporarily occupied in whole or in part by a nomadic army of religious enthusiasts engaged in missionary work, however commendable the results of their efforts may be."

Important Announcement to Our Patrons.

The Editor of this paper announces to his friends and patrons, and particularly to those engaged in technical branches, that he has associated with him Hon. R. G. DYKEMOUTH, Ph. D., late Commissioner of Patents, who, as a graduate of a German polytechnic school, was, for many years previously, an Examiner and Examiner-in-Chief of the Patent Office, having charge of various divisions of mechanical and chemical technology, and is well known in this country and in Europe as an able and skillful patent lawyer, expert, and solicitor of great experience.

All matters for examination as to novelty and patentability, and for the obtaining of patents, for opinions on the scope and validity of patents, and, generally, any matter with reference to patents, trade marks, designs, labels, prints and copyrights, should be sent to Louis Schade, Sentinel Patent Office, No. 804 E Street, N.W. Washington D.C.

An Innovation in Sleeping Car Service.

Introduced by the BALTIMORE & OHIO RAILROAD. Commencing Monday, February 13th, the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad will introduce a new feature in its sleeping car service, between Baltimore and Newark, Ohio, inaugurating what will be known as the "Ordinary" sleeping car, in addition to the regular standard sleeping cars. One of these cars will be attached to Train No. 7, leaving Baltimore at 7:00 pm and arriving in Newark at 10:23 am next day, returning on Train No. 8, leaving Newark 8:30 pm and arriving in Baltimore 12:33 pm next day.

The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad is the first line to introduce this service in the eastern territory for special convenience of the travelling public. In these "Ordinary" sleepers the Pullman rate is reduced one half, so that passengers have the choice of paying the higher Pullman rate and occupying standard car or take advantage of the cheaper rate and occupy the "Ordinary" sleeper.

These cars are new, have been specially constructed for this service, and differ from the standard sleeping cars only in being less elaborately furnished. The seats are upholstered in rattan, and the sleeping berths, when made up, have all the comforts and conveniences of the standard cars.

Tickets will be on sale at regular Pullman ticket offices having business between these cities.

Notice.

The first edition of "The Empire of the South" having been exhausted, a second edition will be ready for distribution by or about March 10, 1899.

It is a handsome volume of about 300 pages descriptive of the South and its vast resources, beautifully illustrated, and regarded by critics as the most complete production of its kind that has ever been published.

Persons wishing to secure this work will please enclose to the undersigned 25 cents per copy which amount approximates the cost of delivery. Remittances may be made in stamps or otherwise.

Address all communications on this subject to W. A. Turk, Gen'l Pass. Agt., Southern Ry., Washington, D.C.

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